

In the abstract:

Please amend the abstract as follows:

~~Revealed are that the actions of inflammatory cytokine and the production of inflammatory cytokines such as IL-1 and TNF induced by an inflammatory stimulus as well as the production of other inflammatory cytokines such as IL-6 induced by the former class of inflammatory cytokines are all suppressed by inhibiting the signal transduction through TAK1.~~

The present invention relates to methods of screening for compounds that inhibit signal transduction by inflammatory cytokines. The methods include providing a sample that contains a TAK1 and a TAB1; contacting the sample with a compound; detecting binding between the TAK1 and the TAB1; and selecting the compound if binding between the TAK1 and TAB1 is inhibited in the sample compared to a control.